UNITED
NATIONS

E

Economic and Social Council

Distr.
GENERAL

E/ICEF/1998/2
25 November 1997

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

UNITED NATIONS CHILDREN'S FUND
Executive Board
First regular session 1998
26-28 and 30 January 1998
Item 2 of the provisional agenda

FOR ACTION

PROVISIONAL ANNOTATED AGENDA AND ORGANIZATION OF WORK

For the first regular session of 1998 of the Executive Board
to be held at United Nations Headquarters from
26 to 28 and 30 January 1998

SUMMARY

The present document contains the provisional annotated agenda and organization of work for the first regular session of 1998 of the Executive Board. The annex contains the proposed timetable and organization of work for the session.

PROVISIONAL AGENDA

Item 1: Opening of the session:

(a) Election of the officers of the Executive Board for 1998

(b) Opening statements by the President of the Executive Board and the Executive Director

Item 2: Adoption of the provisional agenda and timetable and organization of work

Item 3: Report of the Executive Director (Part I): Annual report to the Economic and Social Council

Item 4: Joint meeting of the Executive Boards of UNICEF and the United Nations Development Programme/United Nations Population Fund (UNDP/UNFPA)

Item 5: Biennial support budget for 1998-1999, including the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions

Item 6: Greeting Card and related Operations (GCO) work plan and proposed budget for 1998

Item 7: Oral report on the resource mobilization strategy

Item 8: Country notes

Item 9: Mid-term reviews (MTRs) and major evaluations of country programmes

Item 10: Oral report on implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors

Item 11: 1998 UNICEF Maurice Pate Award

Item 12: Other matters

Item 13: Closing of the session: remarks by the Executive Director and the President of the Executive Board

ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. Opening of the session

(a) Election of the officers of the Executive Board for 1998

The first action following the opening of the session will be the election of the President and four Vice-Presidents representing the regional groups of the United Nations. In accordance with decision 1992/7 (E/ICEF/1992/14), the President of the Board will be nominated from among the Western Europe and Others group of States which are members of the Board.

(b) Opening statements by the President of the Executive Board and the Executive Director

Following the election, introductory statements will be made by the President of the Executive Board and the Executive Director.

2. Adoption of the provisional agenda and timetable and organization of work
[FOR ACTION]

The provisional agenda has been structured in accordance with relevant Executive Board decisions, in particular the 1998 programme of work adopted by the Board at its third regular session in September 1997 (E/ICEF/1997/12/Rev.1, decision 1997/30). The proposed timetable and organization of work, which was shared with the Bureau (CF/OSEB/1997/076 of 7 November 1997), is contained in the annex.

Draft decisions will be adopted as the discussion of each agenda item is concluded. However, if required, time will be set aside for Board members to consult informally on all outstanding draft decisions.

3. Report of the Executive Director (Part I): Annual report to the Economic and Social Council
[FOR ACTION - E/ICEF/1998/4 (Part I)]

This report responds to Executive Board decision 1995/5 (E/ICEF/1995/9/Rev.1) on annual reports to the Economic and Social Council, which sets out the format and content of that part of the annual report of the Executive Director to the Board which also serves as the annual report to the Council.

It contains an outline of measures taken in the implementation of the provisions of the triennial policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system, most recently in General Assembly resolution 50/120 of 20 December 1995, and their relationship to measures called for by the Secretary-General in his reform proposals, "Renewing the United Nations: A Programme for Reform" (A/51/950). Also included is a section on funding arrangements as called for in Council resolution 1997/59 of 24 July 1997. The report also outlines (a) UNICEF commitment in support of the work of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS in response to Council resolution

1997/52 of 23 July 1997; and (b) the integrated and coordinated implementation and follow-up to the major international conferences and summits as requested in Council resolution 1997/61 of 25 July 1997.

The Board may wish to take note of this report and transmit it, along with its comments, to the 1998 substantive session of the Council.

4. Joint meeting of the Executive Boards of UNICEF and the United Nations Development Programme/United Nations Population Fund

At its third regular session of 1997, the Executive Board of UNDP and UNFPA requested that a joint meeting of the UNDP/UNFPA and UNICEF Executive Boards take place in January 1998 to enable an exchange of views on the overall impact of United Nations reform on the funds and programmes. At a joint meeting of the Bureau of the respective organizations held in November 1997, it was agreed to hold such a meeting from 3:00 to 6:00 p.m. on 26 January.

The meeting will focus on the experience of one United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) pilot country, and delegations will be able to discuss with the resident coordinator and the UNICEF and UNFPA representatives in that country their specific experiences and to exchange views with the heads of the funds and programmes on the progress of UNDAF.

5. Biennial support budget for 1998-1999, including the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions

[FOR ACTION - E/ICEF/1998/AB/L.1 and E/ICEF/1998/AB/L.2]
[FOR INFORMATION - E/ICEF/1998/AB/L.4]

In connection with its review of the report on "Integrated budgeting in UNICEF" (E/ICEF/1997/AB/L.4) at its first regular session of 1997, the Executive Board decided to review the biennial support budget for 1998-1999 at the present session, on an exceptional basis, "in order to maintain the integrity of both the country programme recommendation and the integrated budget processes" (decision 1997/3).

As requested by the Board, the secretariat is also submitting for information a report containing the country-by-country details, grouped within regions, on the estimated distribution of resources for programmes and programme support. It includes the proposed number of posts contained in the biennial support budget and the estimated number of posts in the programme budget for 1998-1999.

The Board will also have before it for review the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions on both documents.

6. Greeting Card and related Operations work plan and proposed budget for 1998

[FOR ACTION - E/ICEF/1998/AB/L.3]

The Executive Board will have before it the GCO work plan and proposed budget for 1998. The Board may wish to consider and adopt the draft resolution relating to the budget proposal.

7. Oral report on the resource mobilization strategy

During consideration of the programme of work for 1998 (E/ICEF/1997/CRP.27), the secretariat was requested to include this item on the agenda of the present session, to be followed by a written report on the strategy for resource mobilization at a subsequent session.

8. Country notes

[FOR INFORMATION - E/ICEF/1997/P/L.9, E/ICEF/1998/P/L.8 and E/ICEF/1998/P/L.10-E/ICEF/1998/P/L.20]

In accordance with decision 1995/8 on the consideration and approval of country programme recommendations (CPRs), the secretariat has prepared brief country notes for Board consideration. Designed to inform the Board at an early stage of the ideas regarding the mix and weight given to programme strategies and priorities, the country notes are for country programmes of cooperation to be implemented beginning 1999. Comments made by delegations will be shared with the Governments concerned. The country notes will be used in developing the final CPRs for submission to the Board at its second regular session of 1998.

The Board will have before it two country notes from the Eastern and Southern Africa region: Angola and Kenya (E/ICEF/1998/P/L.8 and E/ICEF/1998/P/L.10, respectively); four from the West and Central Africa region: Benin, Equatorial Guinea, the Gambia and Mauritania (E/ICEF/1998/P/L.11-E/ICEF/1998/P/L.14, respectively); one from the Americas and Caribbean region: Ecuador (E/ICEF/1998/P/L.15); two from the East Asia and Pacific region: Philippines and Thailand (E/ICEF/1998/P/L.16 and E/ICEF/1998/P/L.17, respectively); three from the South Asia region: India, Maldives and Pakistan (E/ICEF/1997/P/L.9 (originally submitted at the first regular session of 1997), E/ICEF/1998/P/L.18 and E/ICEF/1998/P/L.19, respectively); and one from the Middle East and North Africa region: Djibouti (E/ICEF/1998/P/L.20).

This agenda item will be considered in conjunction with agenda item 9 below.

Following an introductory statement on the country notes by the Director, Programme Division, and on the mid-term reviews and major evaluations by the Director of Evaluation, Policy and Planning, each regional director will provide a brief overview of activities in his/her region, a summary of the country notes in the respective region being submitted at the present session and of the mid-term reviews and major evaluations.

9. Mid-term reviews and major evaluations of country programmes

[FOR INFORMATION - E/ICEF/1998/P/L.1-E/ICEF/1998/P/L.7]

These reports were prepared in response to Executive Board decision 1995/8, adopted at its first regular session of 1995, in which the secretariat was requested to submit to the Board a summary of the outcome of mid-term reviews and major country programme evaluations, specifying, inter alia, the results achieved, lessons learned and the need for any adjustment in the country note.

The reports cover the following regions: Eastern and Southern Africa (E/ICEF/1998/P/L.1); West and Central Africa (E/ICEF/1998/P/L.2); Americas and the Caribbean (E/ICEF/1998/P/L.3); East Asia and the Pacific (E/ICEF/1998/P/L.4); South Asia (E/ICEF/1998/P/L.5); the Middle East and North Africa (E/ICEF/1998/P/L.6); and Central and Eastern Europe, the Commonwealth of Independent States and the Baltic States (E/ICEF/1998/P/L.7). With a few exceptions, the mid-term reviews and major country programme evaluations described in the reports were conducted during 1997.

The Executive Board may wish to comment on the reports and provide guidance to the secretariat, as necessary.

This agenda item will be considered in conjunction with agenda item 8 above.

10. Oral report on implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors

As requested by the Board at its first regular session of 1997 (decision 1997/10), the secretariat will provide an oral update on the recommendations of the Board of Auditors as well as an updated timetable indicating the dates when follow-up action will have been completed in the areas that need to be addressed.

11. 1998 UNICEF Maurice Pate Award

[FOR ACTION - E/ICEF/1998/5]

The Executive Director has made a recommendation, endorsed by the Bureau after examination of the nominations submitted, for the recipient of the 1998 UNICEF Maurice Pate Award for Board approval.

12. Other matters

The Board may consider discussing any other issues that it finds timely and appropriate under this agenda item.

13. Closing of the session: remarks by the Executive Director and the President of the Executive Board

The Executive Director and the President will make concluding remarks, followed by the closure of the session.

Annex

PROPOSED TIMETABLE AND ORGANIZATION OF WORK FOR THE FIRST REGULAR SESSION OF 1998 OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD, 26-28 and 30 JANUARY 1998

MONDAY, 26 JANUARY	a.m.	Item 1	Opening of the session: (a) Election of the officers of the Executive Board (b) Opening statements by the President of the Executive Board and the Executive Director
		Item 2	Adoption of the provisional agenda and timetable and organization of work
		Item 3	Report of the Executive Director (Part I): Annual report to the Economic and Social Council
	p.m.	Item 4	Joint meeting of the Executive Boards of UNICEF and UNDP/UNFPA
TUESDAY, 27 JANUARY	a.m.	Item 5	Biennial support budget for 1998-1999, including the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions
	p.m.	Item 5 (cont'd)	Biennial support budget for 1998-1999, including the report of Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (continued)
		Item 6	GCO work plan and proposed budget for 1998
WEDNESDAY, 28 JANUARY	a.m.	Item 6 (cont'd)	GCO work plan and proposed budget for 1998 (continued)
		Item 7	Oral report on the resource mobilization strategy
	p.m.	Item 8 + Item 9	Country notes + Mid-term reviews and major evaluations of country programmes
THURSDAY, 29 JANUARY	EID AL-FITR - OFFICIAL HOLIDAY NO MEETINGS SCHEDULED AS PER GA RESOLUTION 51/211		
FRIDAY, 30 JANUARY	a.m.	Item 8 + Item 9 (cont'd)	Country notes + Mid-term reviews and major evaluations of country programmes (continued)
	p.m.	Item 10	Oral report on implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors
		Item 11	1998 UNICEF Maurice Pate Award
		Item 12	Other matters
		Item 13	Closing of the session: remarks by the Executive Director and the President of the Executive Board

• When consideration of an agenda item concludes ahead of the allocated time, the next item will be taken up for consideration and the timetable adjusted accordingly.